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April 1, 2015

Washington State Department of Ecology
P.O. Box 47600,
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Dear Recreation and Conservation Office;

I am writing this letter in strong support of the SRFB grant proposal titled "Woods Creek Instream Restoration Partnership" that the Adopt-A-Stream Foundation (AASF) is submitting.

Woods Creek is one of only two rural streams in the Snohomish River watershed that are identified as the highest priority in the *Snohomish River Basin Salmon Conservation Plan*. The County completed a *Woods Creek Habitat Conditions Report* in 2013 to further explore the limiting factors to endangered salmonids in this basin and prescribed riparian planting and wood placement as the highest priority restoration actions needed. The report went on to identify specific reaches where these actions are recommended to occur.

Since then, the Conservation District has worked with AASF and Wild Fish Conservancy to implement a coordinated approach to restoration in this basin, focusing on the high priority reaches identified in the *Habitat Conditions Report*. The District, with funding from DOE, is in process of planting 25 acres toward the basin-wide goal of 45 acres. AASF is requesting SRFB funding for the second component of this basin-wide approach which is to install large wood to create immediate in-stream habitat on seven private parcels. In addition, Wild Fish Conservancy is conducting a barrier assessment that will inform future projects.

On the seven properties included in this SRFB grant application, the District will plant a total of 2.1 acres the fall after the large wood is placed in the channel. The planting will be funded by our existing DOE grant and will serve as match to the proposed project. As this will be the last year of our grant, this SRFB request includes three years of stewardship funding to ensure success of these plantings.

We strongly encourage RCO to support the collaborative effort that these partners have taken to directly address the limiting factors facing salmonids in Woods Creek.

Thank you for considering this proposal!

Sincerely,

Monte Marti
District Manager, Snohomish Conservation District